



Kansas Mentors Connection  
January/February 2010

*Happy New Year! As we ring in 2010, what a great time to celebrate mentoring with January's National Mentoring Month and National Thank Your Mentor Day. We appreciate everyone's support in promoting this month's festivities and look forward to continuing the celebration throughout the year.*

#### **NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH: SPOTLIGHT ON STATE & NATIONAL EFFORTS**

##### ***Resolutions passed in the Kansas Legislature & Governor's Proclamation signed***

Kansas' mentoring efforts brought increased awareness to our state's efforts during last week's Mentoring Awareness Activities at the Kansas State Capitol. Mentoring matches from several Kansas programs were in attendance including 4-H Youth Development, Compeer, Kansas Big Brothers Big Sisters, YouthFriends, Youth Horizons and Coach Bill Snyder, co-chair of Kansas Mentors. Events included the introduction of Mentoring Month resolutions in both the Kansas House and Senate, and a Governor's Proclamation Signing Ceremony. To read more about both events visit the KM news room at: <http://kansasmentors.kansas.gov/Pages/news.aspx>

*THANK YOU to all of your efforts to bring awareness to Kansas' mentoring efforts. Now is a great time to contact your local elected officials to share with them the great work you are doing for our state's young people!*

##### ***National Mentoring Month Celebrated at the White House on January 20***

The President and First Lady hosted an event at the White House last week to bring national awareness to the need for mentoring. As part of the day's events, President Obama launched a mentoring program for young men who are paired with mentors from inside the White House. The First Lady launched a similar effort for young women last fall. To view a video and transcript of the event visit:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/photos-and-video/video/celebrating-national-mentoring-month>

#### **BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR YOUTH:**

##### ***KM Director part of statewide team to promote Positive Youth Development***

Ella Todd, director of Kansas Mentors, is part of a statewide team recently selected to receive capacity building services from the National 4-H Council and the University of Arizona. The purpose of this year-long training and technical assistance opportunity is to develop each statewide team's ability to integrate and promote positive youth development strategies. Kansas is one of only six states selected for the 2009-2010 cohort out of more than 29 applicants. The team will travel to the National 4-H Conference Center in Chevy Chase, MD this February to begin their development. As the year progresses, more information will be shared with Kansas' mentoring efforts!

#### **FEDERAL GRANT OPPORTUNITIES: Office of Justice Programs**

##### ***-Second Chance Act Mentoring Grants to Nonprofit Organizations, due 03/18/10***

Provides funding for nonprofit organizations and federally recognized Indian tribes for mentoring programs that facilitate an inmates successful reintegration into society. This grant announcement is aimed at those who have been incarcerated over 18 years of age.

#### **Elements of Effective Practice Webinar Series Announced**

MENTOR will host a series of webinars on the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the *Elements of Effective Practice for Mentoring*. The first two will be held in late February—one geared to Mentoring Partnerships only and the other to mentoring programs. These webinars will provide a broad overview of the EEP—specifically the new Program Operations benchmarks. Additional details will be provided in the coming weeks. Download the new Elements at [www.mentoring.org/elements](http://www.mentoring.org/elements)

***Be a role model. Be a mentor.*** [www.kansasmentors.org](http://www.kansasmentors.org)

*Kansas Mentors 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 540, Topeka, KS 66612 / (785)296-8873*